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FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB OF VICTORIA.

THE ordinary monthly meeting of the Club was held in the Exhibition Building on Monday evening, 13th October, 1913.

The president, Mr. J. A. Kershaw, F.E.S., occupied the chair, and about 30 members and visitors were present.

CORRESPONDENCE.

From Mr. H. B. Slaney, hon. secretary "Bird Protection Court," requesting the Club to forward a letter to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, through the Hon. the Premier, pointing out the vital necessity, in the economic interests of the Commonwealth, for the passing of the Plumage Bill now before the British House of Commons.

On the motion of Messrs. W. G. Mackintosh and F. G. A. Barnard, the matter was referred to the committee to deal with.

REPORTS.

A report of the excursion to Point Cook on Saturday, 13th September, was given by the leader, Dr. C. S. Sutton, who stated that the outing was poorly attended and the results did not call for any special mention.

A report of the excursion to Whittlesea on Saturday, 27th September, was given by the leader, Mr. F. G. A. Barnard, who reported an interesting day, notwithstanding the fact that the portion of the water reserves visited had been terribly damaged by the bush-fires of January last, and had not had time for recovery.

A report of the excursion to Cheltenham on Saturday, 11th October, was given by the leader, Mr. J. R. Tovey, who reported a fair attendance of members. The spring flowers were in evidence everywhere. The Wedding-bush, *Ricinus pinifolius*, and the Myrrh Tea-tree, *Leptospermum myrsinoides*, were seen in all their glory. The Hairy Aotus, *Aotus villosa*, Grey Parrot-pea, *Dillwynia cinerascens*, Snow Beard-heath, *Leucopogon virgatus*, and Milkmaids, *Burchardia umbellata*, were seen in great profusion, whilst the Blue Squill, *Chamæscilla corymbosa*, looked charming amongst the grass and undergrowth. In a depression a large quantity of the Leafless Globe-pea, *Sphærolobium vimineum*, was observed. Of the Orchidaceæ, the Spider Orchid, *Caladenia Patersoni*, and the Flower of Sadness, *Lyperanthus nigricans*, were fairly abundant. Although the weather was at times showery, the ramble over the heathland was an enjoyable one.

A report of the junior excursion to Blackburn on Saturday, 4th October, was given by Dr. C. S. Sutton, one of the leaders, who said that the excursion was fairly well attended. The weather was fine, and about eighty plants were observed in flower. The best of these were *Chamaescilla corymbosa*, *Ranunculus lappaceus*, *Hibbertia stricta*, *Acacia armata*, and *Olearia stellulata*. *Prostanthera lasianthos* was found in plenty, growing in a small creek quite near to the station.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

On a ballot being taken, Mr. R. A. Bastow, 575 Sydney-road, Brunswick, and Mr. R. R. Grundy, 455 Sydney-road, Brunswick, were elected ordinary members, and Mr. J. B. Gregson, Land Office, St. Arnaud, as a country member of the Club.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

There being only one nomination, Mr. F. Pitcher was declared duly elected as a vice-president of the Club.

Mr. P. R. H. St. John said that when journeying to the Yering Gorge on 25th September he had noted twenty-five set fishing-lines on the river-bank. The lines were all baited with magpies' heads and breasts, the dead magpies, minus their heads, being found along the banks. He had reported the matter to the district inspector under the *Fisheries and Game Act*.

PAPERS READ.

1. By Mr. F. Chapman, A.L.S., entitled "Notes on the Occurrence of the Cainozoic Shark (*Carcharoides*) in Victoria."

The author said that, of the many interesting palæontological links connecting the Patagonian strata of South America with the Victorian and South Australian deposits of Cainozoic age, not the least striking is this present occurrence of the teeth of two species of the shark referable to the genus *Carcharoides*, described by Dr. F. Ameghino in 1906. One of the species is new, whilst the other corresponds with Ameghino's *C. tortuserratus*. The fact of this genus having hitherto been confined to the Patagonian beds, and now occurring in the well-known Waurin Ponds quarries, gives support to the opinion that both series formed parts of the same sea-bed. The Patagonian series has been regarded as of Lower Eocene age by Ameghino.

The description of the new species, *Carcharoides tenuidens*, was taken as read. The author's remarks were illustrated by diagrams, &c.

2. By Mr. G. V. Doyle, entitled "A Note on Parturition in *Perameles*" (communicated by Dr. T. S. Hall, D.Sc.)

The paper, being a technical one, was taken as read, and